Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 QUEBEC 00326 302344Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 HEW-06 OPR-02 /078 W
----------120912 302352Z /64
P 302130Z AUG 77
FM AMCONSUL QUEBEC
TO SECSTATE WASHDC RPRIORITY 1096
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL TORONTO

UNCLAS QUEBEC 0326

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT EGEN CA
SUBJ: QUEBEC BECOMES OFFICIALLY UNILINGUAL

REF: QUEBEC 290

1. QUEBEC'S FRENCH LANGUAGE CHARTER, BILL 101, BECAME LAW AUGUST 26. BILL PASSED NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON 54-32 VOTE, WITH ALL OPPOSITION DEPUTIES VOTING AGAINST WITH EXCEPTION OF LONE PNP REPRESENTATIVE, WHO SIDED WITH PQ MAJORITY. FRENCH IS NOW THE ONLY OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF QUEBEC. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WORN THIN BY ITS LABORS, HAS RECESSED UNTIL MID-OCTOBER.

2. OPPONENTS OF THE BILL HAD RECOGNIZED LONG AGO THAT PASSAGE WAS INEVITABLE BECAUSE OF LARGE PQ MAJORITY IN ASSEMBLY, AND GENERAL REACTION WAS THEREFORE ONE OF RELIEF THAT EMO-TIONAL AND EXHAUSTING ASSEMBLY SESSION WAS NOW OVER AT LAST. NEVERTHELESS, PROTESTANT SCHOOL BOARD OF GREATER MONTREAL INDICATED YESTERDAY THAT IT WOULD TAKE BILL 101 TO THE FEDERAL SUPREME COURT. THE BOARD WILL FOCUS ON INFAMOUS CLAUSE 69, THE "QUEBEC OPTION", WHICH RESTRICTS ACCESS TO ENGLISH SCHOOLS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 QUEBEC 00326 302344Z

TO THOSE CHILDREN WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT EDUCATED IN ENGLISH IN QUEBEC OR ONE SIBLING ATTENDING QUEBEC ENGLISH SCHOOL.

3. CAMILLE LAURIN INTRODUCED A NUMBER OF ELEVENTH-HOUR AMEND-MENTS, MOST OF WHICH WERE TECHNICAL IN NATURE BUT SOME OF WHICH ARE SIGNIFICANT. WE HAVE REPORTED PREVIOUSLY ON AMENDMENT

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

PERMITTING RECIPROCAL LANGUAGE-OF-EDUCATION AGREEMENTS WITH THER PROVINCES (QUEBEC 317) AND ON AMENDMENT REGARDING LANGUAGE OF INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS IN CORPORATE HEAD OFFICES (QUEBEC 321). ADDITIONAL RECENT CHANGES WILL:

--PERMIT ANGLOPHONE HOSPITALS TO CONTINUE USING ENGLISH;
--EXEMPT ANGLOPHONE CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES;
--EXEMPT ANGLOPHONES TEMPORARILY RESIDENT IN QUEBEC FOR PERIODS NOT TO EXCEED THREE YEARS, WITH POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL THREE YEAR EXEMPTION WHERE JUSTIFIED.

4. AND FINALLY, CHILDREN OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS ARE TOTALLY EXEMPTED FROM THE EDUCATION PROVISIONS OF THE NEW LAW.

5. CLEARLY, LANGUAGE HARDLINERS CONCEDED VERY LITTLE TO MODERATES. NEVERTHELESS, QUEBECOIS GENERALLY FAVOR THE NEW LAW AND EVEN OPPONENTS ARE NOW HUNKERING DOWN RESIGNEDLY, PREPARED TO LIVE WITH IT OR, IN MINORITY OF CASES, LEAVE PROVINCE. EVEN NOW, ATTENTION IS SHIFTING TO SECOND CRUCIAL BATTLE OF PQ LEGISLATIVE CAMPAIGN, THE REFERENDUM LAW, WHICH PROMISES TO DOMINATE POLITICAL DISCUSSION WELL INTO 1978. MCNAMARA

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LANGUAGE, LEGISLATIVE BILLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977QUEBEC00326
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770314-0046
Format: TEL
From: QUEBEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977088/aaaaagiu.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2b63635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 QUEBEC 290
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1656767
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QUEBEC BECOMES OFFICIALLY UNILINGUAL
TAGS: PINT, EGEN, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2b63635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009